

What is claimed is:

1. A system for checking the consistency between a digital video master and a duplicate video, wherein the digital video master and the duplicate digital video are  
5 each composed of digital data, the digital data composed of a plurality of data segments, the system comprising:

a loader module for storing the digital data of the digital video master and the duplicate digital video; and

10 a comparison module that retrieves the digital data of the digital video master and the duplicate digital video and performs a data segment-by-data segment comparison between the digital data of the digital video master and the digital data of the duplicate digital video, the comparison module indicating any discrepancies between the digital video master and the duplicate digital video.

15 2. A system according to claim 1, wherein each data segment is a byte representative of video.

3. A system according to claim 1, wherein each data segment is representative of a displayed line of video.

20 4. A system according to claim 1, wherein each data segment is representative of a displayed field of video.

5. A system according to claim 1, wherein each data segment is representative of  
25 a displayed frame of video.

6. A system according to claim 1, wherein each data segment is representative of a section of audio track.

7. A system according to claim 1, wherein the comparison module indicates only those discrepancies above a threshold.

8. A system according to claim 7, wherein the threshold is based upon time  
5 duration of the discrepancy.

9. A system according to claim 7, wherein the threshold is based upon spatial relationships between discrepancies.

10 10. A system according to claim 9, wherein the threshold is based upon proximity of discrepancies within a line of video.

11. A system according to claim 9, wherein the threshold is based upon proximity of discrepancies within a field of video.

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12. A system according to claim 9, wherein the threshold is based upon proximity of discrepancies within a frame of video.

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A system according to claim 7, wherein the threshold is based upon viewer  
20 perceptibility standards.

14. A system according to claim 7, wherein the threshold is based upon variance in intensity level of the discrepancy.

25 15. A system according to claim 1, wherein the comparison module annotates discrepancies in a log file.

16. A system according to claim 1, wherein the comparison module indicates discrepancies by time of the discrepancy.

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17. A system according to claim 1, wherein the comparison module indicates discrepancies by categorizing the type and severity of the discrepancy.

18. A system according to claim 1, further comprising:

5 a user interface for accessing and viewing the indicated discrepancies.

19. A system according to claim 18, wherein the comparison module annotates discrepancies in a log file, and the user interface allows selecting an annotated discrepancy and viewing that portion of the duplicate video having the annotated  
10 discrepancy.

20. A system according to claim 19, wherein the user interface allows viewing that portion of the digital video master that corresponds to the selected annotated discrepancy.

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21. A system according to claim 1, further comprising:  
a user interface for listening to the indicated discrepancies.

22. A system according to claim 21, wherein the comparison module annotates  
20 discrepancies in a log file, and the user interface allows selecting an annotated discrepancy and listening to that portion of the duplicate video having the annotated  
discrepancy.

23. A system according to claim 22, wherein the user interface allows listening to  
25 that portion of the digital master that corresponds to the selected annotated  
discrepancy.

24. A method for inspecting a duplicate digital video tape created from a  
digital video master, wherein the digital video master and the duplicate digital video  
30 tape each contain digital data, the method comprising:

loading digital data of the digital video master and the duplicate digital video tape into memory associated with a processor;

comparing the digital data of the digital master and the duplicate digital video tape in the processor;

5 identifying each discrepancy in data between the digital data of the master video and the duplicate video tape; and

indicating each discrepancy in data between the digital data of the master video and the duplicate video tape.

10 25. A method according to claim 24, wherein only those discrepancies above a defined threshold are indicated.

26. A method according to claim 25, wherein the threshold is based upon time over which the data is in discrepancy.

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27. A method according to claim 25, wherein the threshold is based upon spatial relationships between discrepancies.

28. A method according to claim 27, wherein the threshold is based upon

20 proximity of discrepancies within a line of video.

29. A method according to claim 27, wherein the threshold is based upon proximity of discrepancies within a field of video.

25 30. A method according to claim 27, wherein the threshold is based upon proximity of discrepancies within a frame of video.

31. A method according to claim 27, wherein the threshold is based upon viewer perceptibility standards.

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32. A method according to claim 27, wherein the threshold is based upon variance in intensity level of the discrepancy.

33. A method according to claim 24, further comprising annotating each 5 discrepancy in a log file.

34. A method according to claim 24, wherein the step of indicating each discrepancy includes identifying the time of the discrepancy.

10 35. A method according to claim 24, wherein the step of indicating each discrepancy includes categorizing the type and severity of the discrepancy.

36. A method according to claim 24, further comprising:  
providing a user controlled viewing of the indicated discrepancies pertaining 15 to video in the duplicate video.

37. A method according to claim 36, further comprising:  
providing a user controlled auditory review of the indicated discrepancies in the duplicate video.

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38. A computer program product for use on a computer system for inspecting a duplicate digital video tape created from a digital video master, wherein the digital video master tape and the duplicate digital video tape each contain digital data, the computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having a computer 25 readable program thereon, the computer readable program code including:

computer code for loading digital data of the digital video master and the duplicate digital video tape;

computer code for accessing the digital data of the digital master video and the duplicate digital video;

computer code for identifying each discrepancy in data between the digital master video and the duplicate digital video tape; and

computer code for indicating each discrepancy in data between the digital data of the digital master video and the duplicate digital video tape.

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39. A computer program product according to claim 38, wherein the computer code indicates only those discrepancies above a defined threshold.

40. A computer program product according to claim 39, wherein the threshold is 10 based upon duration in time over which data is in discrepancy.

41. A computer program product according to claim 40, wherein the threshold is based upon spatial relationships between discrepancies.

15 42. A computer program product according to claim 41, wherein the threshold is based upon proximity of discrepancies within a line of video.

43. A computer program product according to claim 41, wherein the threshold is based upon proximity of discrepancies within a field of video.

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44. A computer program product according to claim 41, wherein the threshold is based upon proximity of discrepancies within a frame of video.

45. A computer program product according to claim 39, wherein the threshold is 25 based upon viewer perceptibility standards.

46. A computer program product according to claim 39, wherein the threshold is based upon variance in intensity level of the discrepancy.

30 47. A computer program product according to claim 38, further comprising:

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computer code for providing user controlled viewing of the indicated discrepancies in the duplicate digital video tape.

48. A computer program product according to claim 38, further comprising:
  - 5 computer code for providing user controlled auditory review of the indicated discrepancies in the duplicate digital video tape.
49. A computer program product according to claim 38, wherein the process of indicating further comprises:
  - 10 computer code for determining whether an entire field of video is in discrepancy between the digital master video and the duplicate digital video tape.
50. A computer program product according to claim 38, wherein the process of indicating further comprises:
  - 15 computer code for determining the severity of discrepancy over time.
51. A method for copying a duplicate digital video from a digital video master and inspecting the duplicate video at substantially the same time, wherein digital data is copied data segment-by-data segment from the digital video master to the duplicate digital video, the method comprising:
  - reading a data segment from the digital video master;
  - writing the data segment to the duplicate digital video;
  - reading the data segment from the duplicate digital video;
  - comparing the data segment read from the digital video master to the data segment read from the duplicate digital video;
  - 25 determining if there any discrepancies between the data segment read from the digital video master and the data segment read from the duplicate digital video; and causing an indicator if any discrepancies are found.

52. A method according to claim 51, wherein each data segment is a byte representative of video.

53. A method according to claim 51, wherein each data segment is representative  
5 of a displayed line of video.

54. A method according to claim 51, wherein each data segment is representative  
of a field of video.

10 55. A method according to claim 51, wherein each data segment is representative  
of a frame of video.

56. A method according to claim 51, wherein each data segment is representative  
of a section of audio track.

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57. A method according to claim 51, wherein only those discrepancies above a  
defined threshold cause an indicator.

58. A method according to claim 57, wherein the threshold is based upon time  
20 over which the data is in discrepancy.

59. A method according to claim 57, wherein the threshold is based upon spatial  
relationships between discrepancies.

25 60. A method according to claim 59, wherein the threshold is based upon  
proximity of discrepancies within a line of video.

61. A method according to claim 59, wherein the threshold is based upon  
proximity of discrepancies within a field of video.

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62. A method according to claim 59, wherein the threshold is based upon proximity of discrepancies within a frame of video.

63. A method according to claim 57, wherein the threshold is based upon viewer perceptibility standards.

64. A method according to claim 57, wherein the threshold is based upon variance in intensity level of the discrepancy.

10 65. A method according to claim 57, further comprising annotating each discrepancy in a log file.

66. A method according to claim 51, wherein the step of causing an indicator includes identifying the time of the discrepancy.

15 67. A method according to claim 51, wherein the step of causing an indicator includes categorizing the severity of the discrepancy.

68. A method according to claim 51, further comprising:

20 providing a user controlled viewing of the indicated discrepancies in the duplicate video.

69. A method according to claim 51, further comprising:

25 providing a user controlled auditory review of the indicated discrepancies in the duplicate video.

70. A method according to claim 51, wherein the process of causing an indicator includes an audio alert.

71. A method according to claim 51, further comprising halting any further copying if a discrepancy is indicated.

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